

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

April 5, 2012

The Palestine Board of Trustees met on April 5, 2012, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, J.R. Dunlap, Greta Dennison, Larry Miller, and J.D. Kimberlin. Larry Surrells was absent.

Other Staff Members present: Police Chief, Jim Clark; Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk; and Shirley Adams, Village Clerk.

Visitors present: Brian Nethery, Brett Callaway, Ken Pryor, Sr., Brad Midgett and Chris Forde (WTYE).

Meeting called to order by Mayor Schofield.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes were taken by the Village Clerk.

The Minutes of March 1, 2012, were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Spring clean up day will be on April 18th for all paid up customers. Mark Dennis will also pick up appliances, hot water heaters, car parts, and misc. scrap metal and lawn mowers and parts on that day.

2) Update of Matteson property. Jim Clark reported that the court hearing has been continued until April 10th.

3) Update on Animal Control. There is going to be another meeting next Thursday at the Community Annex in Robinson at 6:30 PM. Mayor Schofield would like someone from the Board of Trustees to attend, if possible, as she will not be able to attend.

4) Update: Hotel/Motel Tax Process. Larry Surrells is out of town and will address this at next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Discussion/Approval: Addition of Whelen Encoder for our Global Technical System-Warning Siren. Brad Midgett spoke to the Board about the encoder. The cost would be approximately \$1200. It could be set off remotely from Robinson. Gene Purcell moved that we purchase the remote siren set off system for the disaster and storm warning system siren at Palestine. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion carried.

2) Approve and Adopt Budget for 2012-2013 Fiscal Year. Larry Miller moved to approve the 2012-2013 Budget as presented. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion carried.

3) Approve increase in Sewer Rate-Effective July, 2012. Margaret presented the Board with a list of proposed new rates. There has not been an increase for five years and it is felt an increase is needed to keep up with the expenses of our Sewer Dept. Margaret inadvertently failed to include the Palestine High School rate, so she will add that to her new rate list. Gene Purcell made a motion to approve the new sewer rates as presented, with the inclusion of the Palestine High School rate, to be effective July 1, 2012. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion passed.

4) Approval of 2012 Wine & Arts Festival – October 6 & 7, 2012. The Village received a letter from the Palestine Development Association to host the Tenth Annual Wabash Valley Wine and Arts Festival. It will basically be the same as last year. J.R. Dunlap moved to approve the Wine & Arts Festival. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion carried.

5) Order Salt for 2012-2013. It is that time of year that we ordinarily put in a salt order if needed. We cannot get it from our past supplier. Kathy Fuller made arrangements with Bradford last year to purchase salt from them if needed but it was not necessary. J.R. suggested we might try to get salt from the Crawford County Highway Dept. If they ordered an extra load on top of what they needed, we could possibly purchase that from them. Mayor Schofield said she would take this under consideration.

6) Discussion/Approval: No Parking signs on North Pike St. from route 33 (W. Franklin) to Railroad. The Village has had a request from a resident that lives in that block. They are asking if it would be possible that there be no parking on at least one side of the street, or preferably, on both sides of the street. This would allow a better traffic flow as the street itself is narrow. Gene Purcell said no parking on that street would allow for better access for fire trucks also, in the event of a fire. After a short discussion the Board felt that no parking on both sides of the street would be best. Gene Purcell made a motion that no parking signs will be put up on both sides of North Pike Street from Route 33 to the Railroad. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion carried.

7) Anonymous letter re: dog(s) on W. Market St. The Village received a 'threatening' letter recently which was unsigned and had no return address. It concerned dog(s 'at large'. The Board has repeatedly said that unless there is an official complaint, the Police can do nothing about it.

8) Approval of Palestine PTO Paces for Pioneers-Youth Fun Run and 5K Run/Walk for all ages – May 12, 2012 – 8:00 AM – 10:0 AM. They will not be crossing the highway this year. J.R. Dunlap moved to approve the Palestine PTO Paces for Pioneers Youth Fun Run and 5K Run/Walk for May 12, 2012. Larry Miller seconded motion. Motion passed.

9) Surveys returned-252 plus 46 incomplete for DCEO-FlexFund Grant. Mayor Schofield received an e-mail from them stating they need another 160 completed surveys. They will advise tomorrow what addresses did not respond and we may possibly have to go door to door with surveys to those addresses. Pat will keep us updated.

10) Approval of Lamotte Creek Watershed pickup of old Electronic Equipment to be held on spring clean up day – April 18, 2012. The electronics equipment has to be brought to a location in town. They will have a trailer there for the equipment. Larry Miller moved to approve the electronic equipment pickup by the Lamotte Creek Watershed. J.D Kimberlin seconded motion. Motion carried.

11) Discussion: Re: Elks Charitable Gift for the Palestine Parks - \$1000. The consensus of the Board was that the contribution should be split between Leaverton Park and Main St. Park. Each will receive \$500.

12) Notice of Republic's change – Recycle pickup to begin May 2. Recycles will be picked up every other week on Wednesday. Letters to paid-up customers will be sent out. Regular trash pickup will continue to be picked up every Wednesday.

13) Formal approval of new tires and rims for John Deere Tractor. Phone poll has already been taken by Mayor Schofield and was approved. Greta Dennison moved to formally approve the purchase of new tires and rims for the John Deere Tractor. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion carried.

14) Discussion/Approval – Property Condemnation - 210 S. Jackson. Pictures of the property was passed around for Trustees to review. The Village has received three complaints about the property. Larry Miller moved to table this until the May Board Meeting. J.R. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

15) Formal approval of Special Recognition Event. Although Mayor Schofield had prior approval for this from the Trustees, she felt a formal approval would be in line. It will be on Thursday, April 26th. Lori Williamson will cater it. J.R. Dunlap made a motion that we approve the Special Recognition Dinner. J.D. Kimberlin seconded motion. Motion carried.

16) Discussion – Build a new liquor license for a new business. This new business will be a ‘family sports bar’. There is already a liquor license for beer and wine at this particular place. However, the bank that they are working with would like for them to have a full liquor license, like other ‘sports bars’ have. Mayor Schofield wanted to know if the Board would support this request. Some of the Board members wanted more information before going forward on this, so we will discuss it further at the next Board Meeting.

17) Approve work on repairs/improvements of storm water sewer at the corner of Main St./Rte 33. The Village is responsible for the repair and the repair needs to be done as soon as possible. We can do the work or have Lamac get a contractor for the project. Lamac is in the process of getting us a permit from the State. The money will come out of Motor Fuel Tax money. It was suggested that something be done about the curbing also. Mayor Schofield will e-mail Lamac and see if they need to re-engineer the curbing before the work is done.

Police Report: Chief of Police, Jim Clark. Jim reported that it was a busy month, mostly due to domestic problems. There were two Animal Ordinance tickets written.

Pioneer Room – April – Larry Miller.

Committee Reports:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Along with the Annual Fiscal Budget which was presented and approved, the financials for February and March were distributed.

Ordinance Committee: Larry Miller, Chairman. A resident had asked if the Village had an ordinance concerning placement of gas meters. Larry noted he could find nothing in our ordinances referring to gas meters.

Other business:

Mayor Schofield and Shirley will be attending the Southern Illinois Economic Development Conference on April 12, 2012, at Carterville, IL. It is concerning updates on Open Meeting and Freedom of Information Acts. Cost is \$35.00 each.

The National Day of Prayer Breakfast will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2012, at 7:00 AM at the Robinson Community Center. Mayor Schofield asked if anyone would like to attend. please let her know and we could all go together.

The University of Illinois Extension is offering a disaster preparedness course for businesses called Ready Business. The 3-hour course will be held in Marshall, IL on Wednesday, May 23, 2012, at 5:30 PM. Mayor Schofield would like for some of us to attend, and she will be in touch with everyone.

The Village has received a complaint about the lawn at 424 E. Market St. Jim Clark said he has spoken to the owner and the owner will get it mowed.

Chris Forde addressed the Board saying that the 911 Board is in the process of upgrading its 911 reverse system. If we have a landline, we have to do nothing. However, if we want a text message or e-mail notification of an emergency, we would have to go to the Crawford County Website "Crawford County Central" and go to the self register portal and look for '911 reverse'.

Greta Dennison moved to go into Executive Session at 7:18 PM.

Regular session resumed at 7:55 PM. The Executive Session was for the dual purpose of accepting the Letter of Intent from the Overland Group, LLC and the purchase of Sheb Daugherty's property. The discussion was based on the Letter of Intent for the 6.2 acres. Greta Dennison moved we purchase said property contingent upon the agreement with Gleason and to accept the Letter of Intent and to clarify purchase price and selling price. Gene Purcell seconded motion. Motion passed.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Larry Miller. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

PRESIDENT

CLERK